

THE Gateway

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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See page 7

Budget Process Altered

1986-87 Fiscal Year Will Bring Shortfalls

By POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

When the 1986-87 fiscal year begins Tuesday, UNO will be operating on a reduced budget.

UNO recently cut its \$1.2 million share of the NU budget by reducing operating costs, equipment costs and faculty positions in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Business Administration. In non-academic areas, staff positions have been cut from the Divisions of Business and Finance and Educational and Student Services.

Late last week, the State Revenue Forecasting Board predicted a projected shortfall of more than \$30 million. Shortfalls the last two years prompted debates on whether the state should cut or raise taxes; both have occurred.

In response to budget crises of recent years, both the Nebraska Legislature and the University of Nebraska have altered their budget processes. In February, the Legislature approved LB 258, a plan requiring state agencies, the state colleges and the University of Nebraska to submit biennial budgets.

As a result, NU will submit budgets for fiscal 1987-88 and 1988-89 to the Legislature in January.

"We've been caught up in an incremental approach" to the budget, said Randy Haack, NU budget director. He said the university would go to the Legislature and ask for the previous balance, the cost of inflation plus a little more for new programs.

"The planning process needs to be implemented," Haack said. "We had to have a strategic plan for the university. The last couple of years the university has had major budget reductions." Unless the state's revenue situation

changes, "there's going to be limited resources," he said.

In the late 1960s, there was a great deal of growth in the university, said Elaine Hess, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.

UNO recently cut its \$1.2 million share of the NU budget by reducing operating costs, equipment costs and faculty positions in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Business Administration.

There was dissatisfaction with the biennial budget at that time, she said.

"Everybody was complaining about it at that time," she said. Haack said the previous biennial budget plan was dropped in the late 1960s. She said no one could predict budgets two years in advance.

With very little growth in the university, said Hess, the biennial budget makes sense. "I can see using a biennial budget when we aren't growing," she said.

Haack said the budgets will be submitted during the longer 90-day session in 1987. During the shorter 60-day session, the Legislature will be able to devote more time to analysis, he said, and it could also hear requests for supplemental funding.

Lou Cartier, director of UNO University Relations, said the process is only as good or as

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15 People to Lose Jobs

Med Center Cuts Approved

By MARK ELLIOTT

Work can begin on a renovation study of Arts and Sciences Hall, the Board of Regents voted

University officials said they hope to add 50 years of life to the building with the project. Arts and Sciences Hall will be remodeled, and space vacated by departments moving to the new Lab Science Building in fall 1987 will be renovated.

Saturday at its monthly meeting.

The Leo A. Daly Co. of Omaha was selected from among 11 companies submitting bids for the renovation project.

Arts and Sciences Hall opened for classes in 1938 after two years of construction. University officials said they hope to add 50 years of life to the building with the project. Arts and Sciences Hall will be remodeled, and space vacated by departments moving to the new Lab Science Building in fall 1987 will be renovated.

In other action, the Board of Regents unanimously approved a proposal eliminating the ac-

ademic psychology program at the Medical Center.

The proposal, submitted by Medical Center Chancellor Charles Andrews, would save \$517,864. The Med Center is required to cut \$944,458 from its budget. The remainder of the money will come from cuts from University Hospital and the continuing education program.

As a result of the cut, 15 people, including 10 professors, would lose their jobs.

The board also voted to provide funding for a new \$500,000 western division of the Medical Center's College of Nursing. The division

Several regents argued against the proposal because, they said, they were skeptical that the Nebraska Legislature would follow through with its share of funding.

would be located in Scottsbluff.

The regents voted 5-2 to provide the initial \$100,000 needed to open the division. The first students are scheduled to begin classes this fall. The first class will graduate in the spring of

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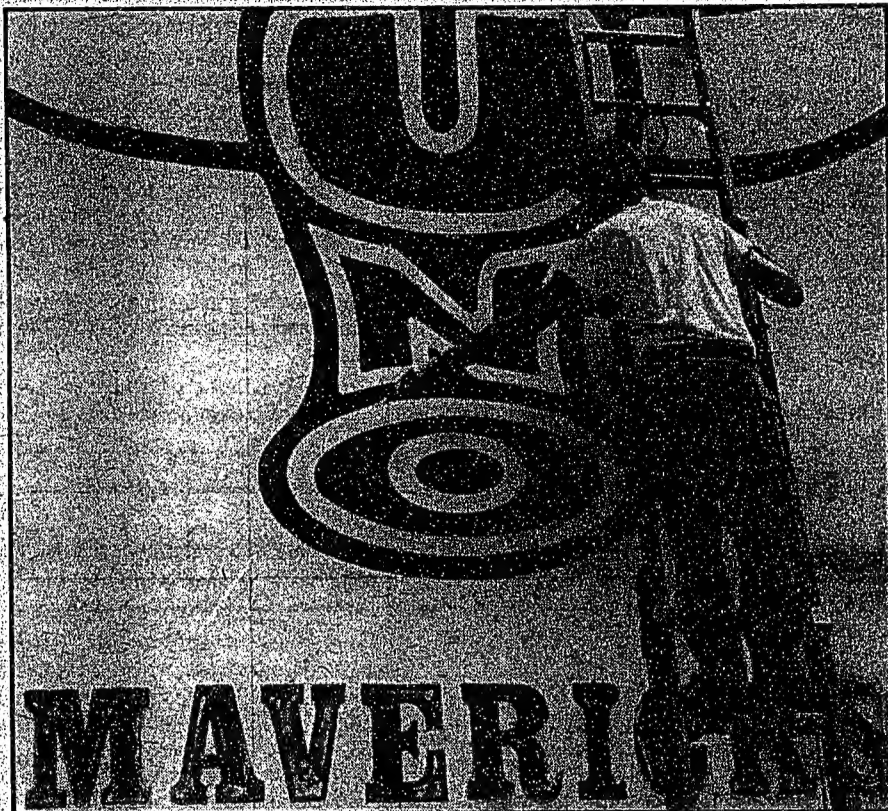
Roskens Calls For Unity

By MARK ELLIOTT

"The University of Nebraska was once regarded as, and can again be, one of the nation's preeminent academic institutions," NU President Ronald Roskens said Saturday.

Roskens, addressing the Board of Regents during its regular monthly meeting, called the University of Nebraska "the state's primary institution of higher education" and said it had a pivotal role in shaping

(continued on page 2)



—Kevin McAndrews

'Did I Miss A Spot?'

Larry Peterson, an artist in Audio-Visual, touches up the Maverick logo on the front of the UNO Fieldhouse June 20. Peterson said it has been more than five years since the logo has been worked on.

Recruitment Program to Improve Enrollment at UNO

By SUSAN LAUGHLIN

To combat declining enrollment figures the University of Nebraska system has been facing these past few years, UNO is taking measures to improve its recruitment program.

"Basically, what we are trying to do is inform people about UNO and what it has to offer — we need to give the community an accurate and clear picture of what the university is about," said Louis Cartier, director of University Relations at UNO.

Cartier cited two basic reasons for a decline in enrollment. First, he said, the number of high school students has decreased, resulting in increased competition among colleges and universities for students. Second, the agriculturally oriented economy of Nebraska has been lagging behind in economic recovery.

"We are not as well off as we might have been if we had not experienced cutbacks at the university, and tuition becomes all the more important to a university when its funding decreases such as ours has," said Cartier.

"Further, the cost of going away to UNO or UNL for people in western Nebraska has increased, and UNO is put at a disadvantage since it does not have on-campus housing," said Cartier.

Vice Chancellor Richard Hoover has pulled together members of the UNO administration, faculty, and community to research past enrollment patterns to enable UNO to build on its strengths, Cartier said.

A major part of improving enrollment at UNO has focused on market research.

"Eight thousand high school seniors, high

school counselors, and parents in a five- or six-county area will be surveyed to find out what criteria are most important to them when choosing a college or university — cost, quality of education, social life — and, based on this information, we will have some hard data to base our decisions on improving our program," said Cartier.

"In conjunction with the research, new brochures, publications, slide shows, and other materials have been developed for use in orientation and by the admissions department," said Tim Fitzgerald, assistant director of University Relations.

"All of these materials and programs are designed to give prospective students an idea of what UNO is really about," said Cartier.

In the long run, UNO wants to present itself as a university that students will consider among their alternatives when choosing a college, Cartier said.

"We plan to present our most attractive selling points — students and faculty — in these materials to show prospective students and the community that despite budget cuts we are not compromising on quality education," said Cartier.

Fitzgerald said some of the materials will be used in orientation programs this summer, and will profile specific students at UNO and why they chose to enroll at UNO.

"It is important to concentrate on student recruitment and make UNO more accessible to the community so that UNO can consolidate its gains to achieve sound financial footing," said Cartier.

AT&T Strike Not to Affect UNO Job

By CHERY LORRAINE

A new telephone system serving UNO and the Medical Center will be installed on schedule despite the AT&T strike, said Forrest Stowe, telecommunications manager.

"AT&T is in charge of the project, but they had contracted with several other companies to complete the project," said Stowe. "The AT&T people finished all the inside wiring except in Eppey before the strike. One of the other companies has finished that job." The AT&T strike began June 1. As of Tuesday, a settlement had not been reached.

New telephone sets will be on desks beginning July 1, and should be distributed campus-wide by July 15, said Stowe. The system should be in full operation by July 19, he said.

The new system, called the AT&T System 85, will connect the UNO and Medical Center campuses by a fiber-optics link, said Stowe. The system will include an all-new call-switching system and state-of-the-art wiring, he said.

"The wiring will accommodate all of our new technology," said Stowe. "It's intended to allow for new innovation and serve the university in-

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Roskens Outlines Thoughts on University at Meeting

(continued from page 1)

ing economic growth and social well being. Because of the budget cuts and "external pressures for reduction and reform," said Roskens, the university has concentrated on "damage control." But all of us have allowed a pall of negativism to descend over us, and we tend to rush from one real or imagined crisis to another with no apparent sense of who we are, who we wish to become, and how we might attain our objectives. We search for the quick fix, and we react rather than lead.

Roskens said the university should become an agent for change within the state. "In the months and years ahead, the university should be a catalytic force around which Nebraskans fashion productive lives and vibrant communities, limited — if at all — only by their capacities to dream," he said.

In order to reach those goals, Roskens

said four principles must be addressed:

1) The University of Nebraska should be seen as one university united in pursuit of common tasks and goals, said Roskens. Because some people see the university as a campus, college or department instead of a whole, division prevails over unity, he said.

2) NU should continue to improve its status as a "major research university," said Roskens. "In the very best institutions, rigorous research undergirds the essential instruction and service functions," he said. "Let us now strive again to be numbered among the very best research universities in the nation by the turn of the next century."

3) The university must "foster a sense of community and a dedication to service," said Roskens.

4) Change is necessary for improvement, said Roskens. Because people are comfort-

able with the way things are done, change, even if it's for the better, is resisted, he said.

"The University of Nebraska must change, but not because we have somehow failed to meet our obligations," said Roskens. "Rather, we must review and, where necessary, alter our objectives so that we can insure that the university will remain a font of excellence."

Roskens said the university needs to concentrate upon several objectives in order to change.

First, he said, strategic planning efforts must be stronger. The university's five-year planning documents must be supplemented to give concrete form to academic objectives, he said.

Next, the budget process must be altered, he said. It is not enough to calculate what the university needs every year to fulfill obligations, Roskens said. The public should

be educated to understand budget requests and "appreciate the realities that underlie the data."

Third, university faculty should continue to be paid well, Roskens said, because retaining good faculty is important and it enhances NU's status.

Fourth, the university should be willing to attract the best students possible, said Roskens.

Fifth, he said, the university should concentrate on the quality of students rather than the quantity.

Sixth, the university should see itself as just one part of a larger post-secondary education community, said Roskens. The university is seeking better relations with other Nebraska colleges, he said.

Finally, the university must increase external funding for both basic and applied research, said Roskens.

News Briefs Student Senate Returns ACM Request

Humanitarian to lecture on El Salvador this Sunday.

A Los Angeles woman who spent 10 weeks in El Salvador's war zones will speak on Sunday, June 29, at 3:30 p.m. in the basement of the First Unitarian Church (31st and Harney) at the Pledge of Resistance monthly public gathering.

Christina Courtright, president of Medical Aid for El Salvador, which is a Los Angeles-

based humanitarian aid organization, traveled on foot from October to December of last year through El Salvador to visit health care installations funded by Medical Aid for El Salvador. Subjects needed for education

The department of education is looking for people interested in participating in a study on the relation between aerobic fitness and the ability to perform cognitive tasks under stress. The test sessions take about one and one-half

hours. Each subject will receive detailed feedback about his/her performance.

If you would like to volunteer, call Dona Kagan at 554-3511.

University auction to be held in Lincoln

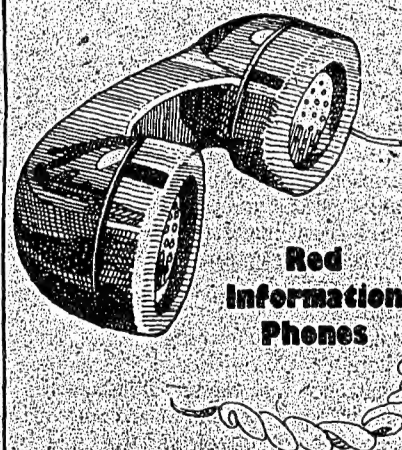
A public auction of university property will be held Saturday, June 28 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at 5001 S. 14th A St. in Lincoln.

Student senate returns request to committee

The Student Senate voted to return the Association for Computing Machinery's \$560 request to the budget committee for further specifications.

The Association for Computing Machinery had requested the money to help finance its trip to the regional computer competition held in November.

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Regents Give Salary Increases

(continued from page 1)

1990. Under the plan, the new school of nursing would replace the West Nebraska General Hospital School of Nursing.

Several regents argued against the proposal because, they said, they were skeptical that the Nebraska Legislature would follow through with its share of the funding. The Legislature is responsible for funding the remaining money until the school's \$500,000 budget is set.

Regent John Payne said it was ironic that only one year after the Legislature considered eliminating the Lincoln division of the School of nursing, the regents were ordered to provide funding for the Scottsbluff school.

Andrews said the school was needed to provide nurses in the western part of the state.

He said there was a shortage of nurses with bachelor's degrees in the state. The new division would provide its students with at least a bachelor's degree.

Regent Kermit Hansen amended the motion to make approval contingent upon the receipt of funds from the Legislature.

The Board of Regents also approved salary increases for all three campus chancellors and the university president.

NU President Ronald Roskens was given a 3.3 percent raise. His salary is now \$93,000 a year. UNO Chancellor Del Weber was given a 4.2 percent raise, making his salary \$80,200. Andrews' salary was raised to \$107,200, a 4.3 percent raise. UNL Chancellor Martin Masengale will now receive \$90,000, a 4.2 percent raise.

System to Cost \$3 Million

(continued from page 1)

definitely. "The number of connections will expand from 1,000 to 1,500. Each set (telephone) will have its own number. The numbers will cor-

The new system was developed during the last three years and costs \$3 million. Representatives from each department contributed to the planning process between November 1985 and February 1986, said Forrest Stowe.

respond as closely as possible to the old ones."

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"We asked them how many numbers were actually used, who each office called most frequently and who answered the phone most often," he said. "We found that the old system did not allow secretaries to use their time efficiently. If a receptionist answered all calls for the suite, she was interrupted too often."

Hands-on training sessions for faculty and staff will begin June 30 in the Eppley Administration Building, said Stowe. Sessions will take about 45 minutes for single-line users and up to an hour for multi-line users, he said.

Faculty and staff are encouraged to use the new telephones for on-campus calling as soon

as they are installed, said Stowe. "That way, most problems will be identified before we cut over the new system."

Complaints may be reported to a trouble-reporting center in Eppley through July. On-campus users may call 2642, 2643 or 2644 to ask questions or report problems, Stowe said.

"We expect quite a few complaints at first," he said. "Some will involve installation oversights or loose wirings. Others will come from users who need help using a special feature."

The old telephones had three standard features — hold, call transfer and three-way conference calling — and six other features were available at additional cost, said Stowe. The

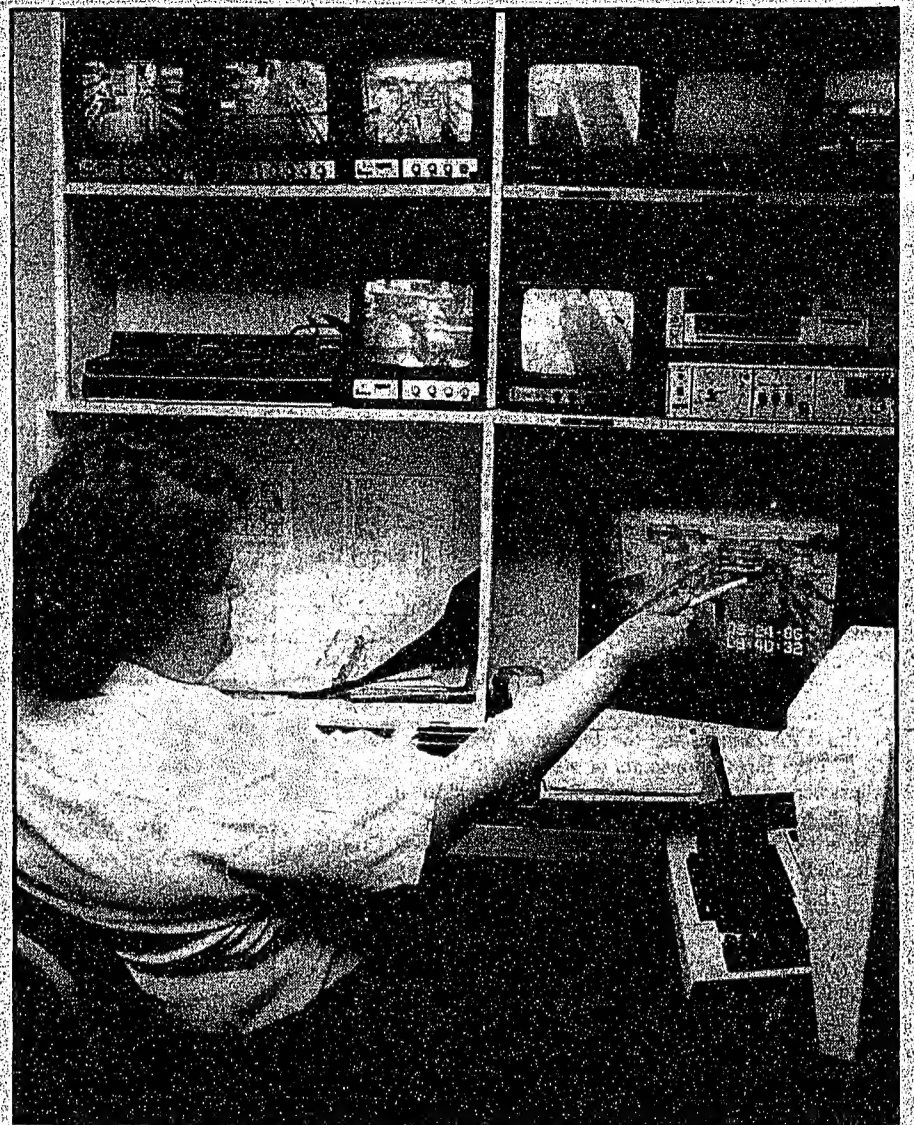
"We expect quite a few complaints at first, some will involve installation oversights or loose wirings. Others will come from users who need help using a special feature."

—Stowe

new phones will have 19 features at no extra cost.

Students may notice the change because the red information only phones will be replaced by black phones. Signs will be added above the "on campus only" phones displaying the number for Campus Security, said Stowe.

"Northwestern Bell will cut over to the new system the weekend of July 20," he said. "By Monday the 22nd, the old phones will be dead, and workers will retrieve the old sets."



Beware!

Campus Security dispatcher Carol Denny overlooks nine television monitors in the Campus Security office. Currently, there are 14 cameras in the university bookstore and another 14 located in the parking garage. Campus Security said that the cameras haven't caught anyone doing anything illegal yet, but according to Denny, "If nothing else they serve as a deterrent, and that makes people feel a little easier." The monitors are watched 24 hours a day.

Haack Calls For Budget Changes

(continued from page 1)

bad as the participants.

"You have to have faith on both sides," said Cartier. The key point in the process will be during the shorter legislative session and "how well we handle the supplemental review," he said.

"We need to realize that Nebraska's economic problems are bad, but they're going to get better," said Haack. The state needs to change its income-tax rate so that it can become stable rather than a percentage of the federal income tax and dependent on fluctuations in federal decisions, he said.

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Comment

Liberal Arts Decays

A recent Doonesbury cartoon features a college president who wonders about these future leaders of the world that sit before him during a graduation ceremony.

"I'd like to conclude my remarks today with an open invitation. Several weeks ago, Education Secretary William Bennett lashed out at the student radicals who are creating such turmoil on our campuses.

"Ever since then, worried college presidents everywhere have been asking themselves one question: 'What student radicals? Have we been missing something?'"

Gary Trudeau, the controversial yet precise artist of this editorial strip, continues with the president pleading for the students to give "some sort of sign" that radicalism lives. In the next frame, there is silence.

"Well, I thought it was pretty weird, but no harm is . . ." a lone voice from the crowd stirs, and just as all hope was abandoned, words came which reflect one reason radicalism exists at a low ebb.

"Divest now! Thank you."

The thirst for money, and the pursuit of the quick and sure way to it, have lured thousands of students at this university, and others across the country, away from a "classical education" and the liberal arts, towards business.

In a June 12 *Omaha World-Herald* story (UNL, UNO, Creighton Schools Boom, Women Get Down to Business), Alan Gersten reported that in 1975, 824 women were registered in undergraduate business schools at UNL, UNO and CU. In 1985, 3,421, more than four times as many, were enrolled.

Gersten, business editor for the *Herald*, quoted Gary Schwendiman, dean of the College of Business Administration at UNL, that the increase represented "part of the changing fabric of society."

Six days later, Larry Trussell, dean of UNO's Business Administration, wrote in the *Herald's* Another Point of View column that business students are encouraged to study the liberal arts.

"Regardless of what degree one pursues in college, learning must be a life-long endeavor," said Trussell. "No graduate of any academic program will possess all the knowledge he will need during his career. It is just as appropriate for this life-long learning to focus on the liberal arts and humanities as on professional topics.

"I hope every graduate of our College of Business develops an interest in and is supportive of the fine arts, enjoys reading the great works of literature and history and becomes a productive member of the broader society. The liberal arts education received at the university can plant that seed, which I hope grows throughout a lifetime."

A commendable hope, but when the time comes for further cuts in the university, it remains to be seen whether the liberal arts will be guarded with the same zeal as the business school.

Willa Cather, in 1923, predicted what in her worst dreams appears to have come true. In an article about Nebraska written for *The Nation*, Cather comments on the direction education was headed.

"There is even danger that that fine institution, the University of Nebraska, may become a gigantic trade school. The men who control its destiny, the regents and the lawmakers, wish their sons and daughters to study machines, mercantile processes, 'the principles of business,' everything that has to do with the game of getting on in the world — and nothing else. The classics, the humanities, are having their dark hour. They are in eclipse. Studies that develop taste and enrich personality are not encouraged. But the 'Classics' have a way of revenging themselves. One may venture to hope that the children, or the grandchildren, of a generation that goes to a university to select only the most utilitarian subjects in the course of study — among them, salesmanship and dressmaking — will revolt against all the heaped-up, machine-made materialism about them. They will go back to the old sources of culture and wisdom — not as a duty, but with burning desire."

During the 1960s and early '70s, students had a common cause to fight. It was the Vietnam War, and the stiff Puritanistic ideals, both of which wrapped this country in a relentless grip, threatening to strangle change and evolution towards a healthier and well-rounded civilization.

Today the fear that capitalism has society in a similar grip is strengthened by evidence of decay in the liberal arts programs. There is no radicalism because the evil that threatens is elusive and magnetic, in contrast to war and puritanism; two evils easily recognized and willingly fought.

The question must be asked: When the liberal arts' seed "planted" within business graduates begins to bloom, will legitimate courses of study in this area still be available in this state, if indeed they are now?

The School of Hard Knocks is probably the most difficult institution from which to graduate. New and sometimes painful lessons are learned every day, if one is lucky.

An editorial last week (It's just not right), written to tongue in cheek, was not taken this way by at least more than one professional who has dabbled in this field of journalism. So I'm sure there are more who may question the integrity of the piece. It is taken for granted that editorialists do not write for the sake of personal vendettas, or to "pick on someone." This paper strives to write fair and legitimate criticism on events that occur in this community.

If there is ever a question concerning this simple yet imperative ideal, in either editorials or news stories written in the *Gateway*, your comments are welcome, if not wholeheartedly desired.

—KEVIN McANDREWS



What Kind of Court Does Reagan Want?

The question, as put by the headline in the *New York Times*, is this: Has Mr. Reagan got the Supreme Court he wants? This, of course, is prompted by the forthcoming resignation of Chief Justice Warren Burger, the promotion of Mr. Justice Rehnquist to replace Mr. Burger, and the nomination of Antonin Scalia to the Court. But any sensible answer to the question articulated by the *Times* ought first to be preceded by an answer to another question: What sort of Supreme Court is it that Mr. Reagan wants?

There are two ways to answer that question. The first way, of course, is the way in which the better part of those who seek affirmation, guidance, and barometers from the *New York Times* would answer it: Mr. Reagan, really, wants to reconstruct the Supreme Court to conform to his concept of rock-ribbed, hard right law, which places all credence in an outmoded and constricting *weltanschauung* and little or no credence in a dynamic, evolving world which requires keen sensibility about matters of (watch it) justice.

The second way to answer the prefatory question is the way in which the better part of those who do not jump when the *Times* barks would answer it: Mr. Reagan, really, wants nothing more (and, nothing less) than a Supreme Court which will practice what, in fact, the Supreme Court's craft was, prior to 1938, which is to say the Supreme Court was not quite in the business of finding in the Constitution things which — by little or no stretch of the ideological imagination — could be found in the Constitution as it was (is).

Now, one is reminded to exercise care in saying that, but exercising care ought not to mean exercising an absence of principle. Sixteen years ago, Mr. L. Brent Bozell (in *The Warren Revolution*) pointed out that a particular society (say, the United States) is governed in fact by two constitutions: one, a fixed or written Constitution; the other, an unwritten or "fluid" constitution, which (Mr. Bozell wrote) deals with "provisions . . . that are fashioned gradually, subtly, often imperceptibly, by the society's organic process . . . a fluid provision . . . is accomplished by an accumulation of actions taken over a period of years by various public authorities, as well as by private groups and citizens — actions (which) may often be in sharp conflict with each other, but which may eventually produce a broad synthesis."

Then, the question which confronts many regarding the Supreme Court is, whether or not the Court has much business in construing anything other than the written Constitution, it being the view of those many that the Court has construed the Constitution, over a good many years, in terms which have to do with commuting the fluid to the fixed, before a proper basis within the fixed can be demonstrated.

Clearly, Mr. Reagan is in search of a Supreme Court which minds the business of the fixed Constitution, while other authorities — Congress, state legislatures, and Mr. Bozell's organic processes within society — tend to the business of the fluid constitution. It may well be that the prevalence of wiser minds and the emerging fluid consensus might have achieved certain things the Warren Court pressed through, without the threat of Constitutional tinkering which continued through the Burger Court's tenure. As Benno C. Schmidt, president designate of Yale, writes, "For all its many important differences with the Warren Court, the Burger Court . . . embarked on several major activist forays on its own."

And, certainly, Mr. Justice Rehnquist, notwithstanding one or two errors in early vision, is noted at once for his intellectual prowess and his concern that the written Constitution should



Jeffrey A.
Kallman

be construed according to its prescriptions. So what, then, should the objection be? That a conservative President, with the power of nomination, should nominate to the Supreme Court conservative justices?

You see in that sort of questioning the tint of the double standard, which tint often usurps salutary thinking. Less mannered opponents call Mr. Reagan's designs an attempt at "packing the Court." But that formulation drives them out of their minds, when they are reminded Franklin Roosevelt was accused of precisely the same thing in 1938. Does it mean it is just fine for a non-conservative President to seek non-conservative Supreme Court justices, but a capital crime for a conservative President to seek like-minded justices? Whatever the suspicious of the crowd which follows, among others, the barometer of the *New York Times*, the confirmation of Mr. Rehnquist is going to inspire some robust discourse indeed. About time.

The Gateway

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Op Ed

The Worlds Largest Beach Party Is In — Iowa?

I'm afraid that this is going to sound unpatriotic, or even sacrilegious, but I've already had enough of the Statue of Liberty celebration, and it hasn't even happened yet.

The Statue of Liberty is a beautiful symbol. But with all the marketing, television contracts, sponsorship deals, and high-priced tickets, the July 4 weekend celebration has been ruined by the New Yorkers and Hollywood types who have been allowed to control it. An example: one New York apartment with a view of the Statue of Liberty reportedly has been subleased for July 4—one day—for \$25,000.

But I'm not here today to complain. Instead, I want to tell you about another event that is happening to the United States during July—an event that delights me, but that has received little publicity because of all the hoopla over New York's Statue of Liberty celebration.

The event will take place in the small Iowa town of Williamsburg on July 19 and 20. It is being billed as the World's Biggest Beach Party.

A beach party in Iowa, you ask yourself? Yes, a beach party in Iowa—and that is only the beginning of the reason that the World's Biggest Beach Party, in terms of pure fun, sounds like a decent alternative to the Statue of Liberty television show.

Williamsburg is bringing in 3 million pounds of sand to build a massive beach in the heart of Iowa—right at the intersection of Interstate 80 and Highway 149.

"We're 1,200 miles from the nearest coast, so we have to construct our own beach," said Steve Gander, the man behind the beach party. "We don't really have any beaches in Iowa. Sand is arriving from the Bahamas, from Florida, from Virginia, from Texas, from California and from Hawaii."

Featured entertainment for the weekend will include such beach-oriented musical groups as Jan and Dean and the Ventures.

"We're doing this to draw attention to our town, and to Iowa



Bob Greene

in general," Gander said. "Iowa doesn't do very well in the area of tourism. In fact, I think that Iowa spends less on tourism than any state in the nation."

Gander and his committee hope that the World's Biggest Beach Party will change all that.

"It's just an excuse to have fun," Gander said. "It's easy for cities and states that have oceans to have beach parties. But in the middle of Iowa, we have to try a little harder. We think this will tell America a little bit about how hard Iowa people work to get things done."

In addition to the beach music at the party (other performers include Gary Lewis, Tommy Roe and Johnny Tillotson), there will be food stands, a barbecue tent, four beer gardens and a car show featuring autos from the '50s and '60s.

"The only thing our beach party is going to be missing is a body of water," Gander said. "If you can overlook that, you'll have a great time."

Already, he said, mostly by word of mouth, people have purchased tickets in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Arizona, Nebraska and Missouri.

There will be a "Little Old Lady From Iowa" contest, as well as beach volleyball games and tug-of-war contests. ("We haven't figured out a way to have a surfing contest yet," Gander said.)

"People shouldn't be scared to come here just because they

think our beach is out in the middle of nowhere," Gander said. "We're only 40 miles from Cedar Rapids ... 65 miles from Waterloo ... 85 miles from Des Moines ... and 85 miles from Davenport."

Gander realizes that, because of the beach party's location, it will be tough to get a lot of national media attention.

"I know what people on the East Coast and the West Coast think about Iowa," he said. "They think it's just a place that people drive through."

"When I used to go to New York City, people would ask me where I was from. I'd tell them, 'Iowa.' And they'd say 'Oh, yes, Ohio. I've got some relatives in Ohio.' Or they'd say, 'Idaho? Isn't that where they grow so many potatoes?'"

Gander wanted the beach party to be in Williamsburg because he is a Williamsburg resident, and "like any other small town in rural America, Williamsburg is starting to have some bad times. Everyone was talking about how we could do something good for the community, and the idea for the World's Biggest Beach Party grew out of that. We're telling everyone who asks: We can't promise you an ocean, but we can promise you a good time."

There is another, more serious message that Gander and the other organizers want to get across.

"People from Iowa have always been known as hard-working and hospitable," Gander said. "We hope that when people leave the beach party they'll remember us in a positive way."

And although, unlike the Statue of Liberty weekend in New York, there will be no live network television coverage, no \$5,000 tickets and no \$25,000 apartment sublets so people can catch a view of what's going on, Gander promises something that sounds even better.

"A little music, a little sun, and a fantastic time on Iowa's beach."

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The World Outside by William Head

Nearly seven years ago the Soviet Union backed a *coup d'état* in Afghanistan, installing a Moscow protégée, Karbak Karmal. Shortly after the coup, Soviet troops arrived to stomp out any resistance to the puppet government.

Karmal has since been replaced with yet another pro-Soviet leader while the Soviet troops remain, still unable to achieve a clear military advantage or obtain political stability.

"Afghan resistance fighters control about 70 to 80 percent of the country," said Thomas Gouttierre, director of the Center for Afghanistan Studies at UNO.

Gouttierre returned last week from Pakistan after working on a pilot education project designed to create 2,000 schools in Afghanistan. "People in Afghanistan have been deprived of an education because of the war," said Gouttierre.

The project, if approved by the State Department, will probably be directed from Pakistan, said Gouttierre, adding that no Americans would be working inside Afghanistan. "It's not a covert or clandestine operation. The project was unanimously approved by both houses (of Congress)," Gouttierre said.

The Center for Afghanistan Studies was established in 1973, taking on an expanding role since the Soviet invasion in 1979. "We're very active because we think it's important that the rest of the world be informed on what's going on in Afghanistan," said Gouttierre. "We keep abreast of the political events in Afghanistan. Our government, other governments, and the media rely on us for analysis of the situation."

Gouttierre, who spent 10 of the last 22 years in Afghanistan and is fluent in Dari, the native language, said: "We hear about South Africa, as we should, but it's frustrating because half a million civilians have been killed by the Soviets and that's a significant portion of the Afghan population."

While admitting awareness of the problem is growing, Gouttierre said that Americans are suffering from "compassion fatigue. After a while we get overwhelmed by the constant request for attention and concern."

"There is no philosophical impediment to commit genocide on part of the Soviets," said Gouttierre, explaining that the Soviets put Afghans in underwater irrigation channels, pour in chemicals, and then ignite the water, burning the people to death. In other instances Gouttierre said the Soviets cut the throats of civilians and put them in the snow to die. "No one has the right to do that to the Afghan people. Not the Soviets, not anyone," said Gouttierre.

The Soviets want the Afghan territory as a buffer zone and to take advantage of Afghanistan's water resources to aid in the development of agriculture in the central Soviet Union, said Gouttierre.

Gouttierre said he expects the Afghan resistance fighters to receive more sophisticated weaponry, including the hand-held Stinger missile recently denied to Saudi Arabia.

"The resistance fighters are stronger, better organized, larger, and their morale is high," said Gouttierre, adding that

they have held the Soviets to a standstill.

"The Soviets are concerned that nothing is going as it should," said Gouttierre. "They've become embarrassed by it and the attractiveness has diminished."

Has all this turned into a Soviet Vietnam?

While admitting some elements of comparison, Gouttierre cited major differences. "The capacity of the Soviets to supply is tremendously different," said Gouttierre. "The Soviets don't have anti-war demonstrations in the streets, or people refusing to serve. They share a common border with Afghanistan and they're not fighting against high-tech weapons."

There are 200,000 to 300,000 resistance fighters under a seven-member leadership, said Gouttierre. Four of the seven recently visited to U.S. to drum up support. "I wouldn't say that the seven are highly united, but there is a lot of cooperation between them," Gouttierre said.

Aid to the resistance fighters and diplomatic pressure from the United States and Third-World nations could help push the Soviets out, said Gouttierre.

Although Gouttierre expects the war to last at least another two years, he said that the Afghan capacity and willingness to fight has in no way abated, despite seven years of Soviet occupation.

"The Afghan people will continue to fight with or without assistance," said Gouttierre. "Ninety-nine percent of the Afghans don't want the Soviets in their country. They're fighting for their freedom."

ACCESS

After reading "Academic Expectations and Black Athletes" (*Education Week*, June, 1986) by Harry Edwards, I was elated, surprised and somewhat ambivalent regarding the article. Dr. Edwards is well-known in the Black academic community for his unrelenting zest to de-emphasize athletic fever and the exploitation of Blacks.

The article raised a number of substantial issues which typify most school districts in this country. Dr. Edwards mentioned an array of statistics that are indicative of our educational policies and programs in this country. One such fact mentioned is that "65-75 percent of black athletes (as opposed to 25 to 35 percent of white athletes) never graduate from the colleges they represent in sports. Of those black athletes obtaining degrees, 75 percent (three times the percentages of white athletes) majored in physical education, sport administration or communications—areas promising limited occupational marketability and mobility, especially for blacks." The question is, how did this develop?

Generally, many programs in high schools place too much emphasis on sports instead of academics. The many Black functional illiterates playing sports at universities and colleges didn't germinate overnight. Many got to universities (such as Creighton University's Kevin Ross), or they became part of the national picture (as was the case at the University of Georgia), because of poor elementary and secondary education.

Traditionally, educators, both Black and white, have never shown an interest in Black students. This is why one reads national reports such as 1983's "A Nation at Risk" or 1982's

"Higher Education of Minorities," there is a constant mention of the 40-50 percent illiteracy rate in our community. This is not an accident, by a systematical policy of low expectations and benign neglect.

On any given day, at inner city high schools, one can see hundreds of Black students walking away from schools with no books in their hands. Many Blacks who are involved in sports will faithfully carry their \$50-\$60 designer shoes to and from schools. We see that this happens because the rewards offered by school staff tend to give greater credence to jumping and playing sports for sports-crazed fanatics instead of preparing for a future in a nice professional occupation.

Junior high and high schools, to a large extent, are the training grounds for many colleges and universities. It is often amazing when rare individuals emerge from the gladiatorial pits and speak in a coherent fashion. Millions of Black people with normal expectations cringe whenever an announcer or sport commentator puts a microphone in front of the ignoramus playing ball for an on-the-spot interview. If we didn't know better, one would assume they were picked right out of the fields.

Countless folks along the continuum of the athlete's life will invariably place the blame on everyone but themselves. We hear the parents blame the schools, the schools blame the parents, the coach blames the society and the society blames the athletes. Nowhere do they all sit down and decide what is best for the students.

In Omaha, we are undergoing public hearings regarding the 1986-1987 school budget. And one of the loudest, or at least,

the most threatening cliques (special interest groups) is the group of parents who don't want the athletic program cut. Moreover, there is a sub-clique who is fighting to get a new program of soccer into the budget. To add to the absurdity of this conflict, some folks have remarked that if the athletic program is cut or the soccer program is not initiated, they would withdraw their kids from the district and move elsewhere (one can infer they value kickball over smarts).

It is pleasure-seeking adults such as those who infect the schools (disguised as educators) who allow students (mainly Blacks) to walk away from the only real change to improve their lives. Rarely do any of these fat-mouth folks come out to discuss cuts in quality education, however. Their fetish is letting the young play sports instead of obtaining a balanced education. The sad part of Dr. Edwards' editorial appears as if he places too much blame on colleges and not enough on high schools or grade schools where the young muscle-bound brains were neutered.

Many Black business leaders and administrators in our schools are ex-jocks. They now have muscled bodies under their designer suits and never stress to our young the double jeopardy of competing in the classroom and the playing field. Considering the status quo and the amount of attention garnished on the OPS (Omaha Public Schools), it is surely to be a knock-down-drag-out fight to the finish between the academic group versus the athletic supporters. In looking at the size of the crowds, I am willing to bet the mortgage payment that the athletes will win this fight.

—A'Jamal-Rashad Byndon

This week

27 FRIDAY

- Summer Arts Festival, outside the Civic Center, see schedule of events on this page, 551-6557.
- SPO free movie, *Strange Invaders*, outdoors, east of CDA or dusk.
- Omaha Magic Theater, *Sleazing Toward Athens*, 8:30 p.m., 346-1227.

28 SATURDAY

- Summer Arts Festival, outside the Civic Center, 551-6557.
- YWCA "Fake It 'Til You Make It" workshop, putting together a professional wardrobe at minimal cost, 345-6555.
- Omaha Magic Theater, *Sleazing Toward Athens*, 8:30 p.m., 346-1227.
- "Free day," no admission charged at Fontenelle Forest and Neale Wood Nature Center.
- "Table Talk," host Paul Dorge and Ronald Roskens, president of UNO, airs on KVNO at 4:40 p.m.

29 SUNDAY

- Summer Arts Festival, outside the Civic Center, 551-6557.
- Music in the Park Series, free concert in the Central Park Mall, 553-5818.



Gateway file photo.

80,000 are expected to attend the Summer Arts Festival this weekend.

30 MONDAY

- Omaha Doller, "Dance the Summer Away," through Aug. 2, 346-7332.

1 TUESDAY

- Staff Advisory Council, Chancellor's Council Noon, Eppley 201, 2 p.m.

2 WEDNESDAY

- Joslyn Music in the Court, Earl Dares and Michele Phillips, free, noon to 1 p.m.
- Joslyn Art Museum, July guided tours, 1 p.m., 342-3300.
- Chemical Prevention Class for parents, Omaha Council on Alcoholism, six-week session, 345-4080.
- Brown bag organ recital, Omaha Guild of Organists, featuring Marilyn Kielnierz, Strauss Performing Arts Center, noon to 1 p.m.



Linda Shepard

Preston Love will perform at Joslyn's "Jazz on the Green" series in the sculpture garden on July 3.

3 THURSDAY

- Joslyn "Jazz on the Green" series, outdoor concerts in the sculpture garden, featuring Preston Love, picnic encouraged, 342-3300.
- Beach Boys and the Moody Blues at Rosenblatt Stadium.
- Pick-up day for Opera Omaha annual live lobster and clam sale, 333-3612.
- Deadline to apply for graduate regents tuition waiver for fall 1986.

4 FRIDAY

- No Class for UNO summer sessions.
- "A Capital Fourth-1986," National Symphony, live from the lawn of the capitol, Nebraska ETV, 9 p.m.
- Ralston 4th of July Parade, 80th and Q, 339-7737.

Series Relates UNO and Omaha

By TIM McMAHAN

"People don't seem to realize the importance of UNO to the area," said Jerry Goldberg. "Culture and industry attract others to join our community."

In order to show people how UNO and the Omaha community are related, the College of Continuing Studies' *TV Classroom* has begun a series of programs called "UNOmaha: Partners in Progress." Guests with occupations ranging from technical jobs to the arts discuss how UNO affects their field.

Goldberg, the producer of *TV Classroom*, said the idea for the new series came from the type of press coverage UNO

part of the community, but not to add in just a monetary sense, but to add also to the community's culture."

Among the guests for "UNOmaha: Partners in Progress" include: Joe Hanna, secretary of the Omaha Public Schools Board of Education; Larry King, metropolitan editor for the *Omaha World-Herald*; Bob Bell, Metropolitan Utilities District general manager; and Mary Robert, general director of Opera Omaha. Margaret E. Fitch, a professor of education, curriculum and instruction, is the show's host.

Carol Schrader, anchorwoman for KETV news and a guest on "UNOmaha," said she understood the importance of the show. "There are a lot of things I can't do for UNO because of news judgment and lack of time," she said. "UNO's TV production and broadcasting programs are in jeopardy. They could go on the chopping block." Schrader said most of the broadcasters from the community come from UNO.

TV Classroom has been on the air for 33 years and is one of the longest-running programs of its kind in the United States. Because of cuts in the College of Continuing Studies' budget, the show may not be produced next year.

John Millar, who is in charge of production operations for the show, said a program of this kind could cost up to \$1,000 per show, not including publicity and advertising costs, if it were made off-campus. Part of the show's costs are met by using volunteers.

"I'm going to try to keep doing it with no budget money," said Goldberg. "We hope to get money through people who would like to support the program."

The show is produced by UNO students who are looking for television production experience. Jim Langdon, the director, is the only professional involved in producing the show.

Some past *TV Classroom* topics, based on public interest, included the visually impaired, housing, economics, the history of aviation, art, science, history and culture.

TV Classroom is shown on Thursdays at 5 p.m. on Channel 26 (Cox 11) and is rebroadcast Saturdays at 6 a.m. on Channel 3 (Cox 5).

TV Classroom UNOmaha: Partners in Progress Schedule

- July 3, Channel 26, 5 p.m., July 5, Channel 3, 6 a.m. Social Services — Are UNO's social programs like Gerontology and Goodrich important to the Omaha community?
- July 10, Channel 26, 5 p.m., July 12, Channel 3, 6 a.m. External Programs — A look at how ROTC, The Boot Strap Program and International Studies influence Omaha.
- July 17, Channel 26, 5 p.m., July 19, Channel 3, 6 a.m. Distinguished Alumni — Discussing the advantages of higher education through UNO.
- July 24, Channel 26, 5 p.m., July 26, Channel 6 a.m. Summary of the Series.

receives. Recent coverage of property annexation for campus expansion and wage disputes with faculty, he said, and people were ignoring the importance of UNO to the community.

"We supply the community with teachers, architects and engineers," said Goldberg. "We want people to know the university is good for them."

Cultural events, academic growth and economic strength are all enriched by the university's classwork and research, said Goldberg. "What we are saying is we are here and an integral

Weekend Wire . . . Innovative vs. Imitated Band

Frankly, I'm bloody-bored.

The summer movie season is upon us, but with few refreshing or interesting formats, I'm a little tired of voluntarily releasing my hard-earned dollar to the famed institution called AK-Sar-Ben on so-called "sure things."

I've done the softball scene — both participating and spectating — and it was fun at first, but it too has taken on a mundane appearance.

The Royal Grove at Peony Park was surprisingly delightful for a bit as it hosted groups such as Hoodoo Gurus, the Beat Farmers and the Violent Femmes, but, alas, it was shortlived.

Now we can see the usual pseudo bands like High Heel and the Sneakers, the Verandas or the Jacks. Really — thanks, but no thanks. But then we have to remember that organizations such as Peony Park have to make tremendous profits off the "fun-starved" young adults who feed on Top-40 tunes.

Thank god for venues such as the Howard Street Tavern, the Lifticket and Kilgore's that feature innovative rather than imitated bands.

Tonight, Kilgore's will present Cellophane Ceiling.

Yeah, I'll admit I have a soft spot for the band, but it is musically justified. The threesome of Steve Coleman, Chris Sterba and John Wolfe have a musical relationship that is imitable.

Take the psychedelic riffs and twangs of lead guitar John Wolfe and combine them with the cool intelligence of Chris Sterba on keyboards and bass guitar and tie them with the heavy metal mashing of Steve Coleman and you've got it — the appeal of Cellophane Ceiling. It's the conformity of contradicting musical tastes that make them likeable and interesting.

Time and experience have made Cellophane Ceiling more fluent performers. In my four-month absence, the Ceiling have polished and honed the stage performance and are even better than I remember them to be. An album, *The Beauty of It* is due out in mid-August with the majority of the material being originals by the band.

I especially like hearing bands at Kilgore's. It's a tiny little

bar tucked away at 32nd and California, but it has a character all its own. With its glass bay windows and mini-beer garden (complete with grill — but bring your own wienies!) it offers a relaxed atmosphere. No liquor license, though, so you'll have to settle for beer or wine.

June 27, 28 and 29 is scheduled for the Summer Arts Festival which is billed as "Omaha's Largest Celebration of the Arts."

The festival is being held at the Omaha/Douglas County Civic Center, 17th to 19th and Farnam to Harney Streets. The free event features 175 artists and craftsmen and continuous performing arts.

The Belle of Brownville is shoving off again, this time with the musical entertainment being offered by Matt "Guitar" Murphy. Sunday evening at 8 p.m. is the scheduled departure time for the cruise down the Missouri, departing from Hayworth Park in Bellevue.

Most will remember Murphy from the *Blues Brothers Movie*, and he's even better live. A must for the blues connoisseur. Tickets are \$12 and are available in advance from the Howard Street Tavern.

The Linoma Mashers survived their own river boat cruise and are bringing the island sounds to Hamilton's at 1410 No. Saddle Creek Rd. on Friday and Saturday. Now we all know how much fun they can be — so I'll leave it at that.

If the idea of relaxing in front of the air conditioner with your turntable at your side, then give a listen to these new releases: Lou Reed — *Mistral*, Peter Gabriel — *So*, Blow Monkeys — *Animal Magic*, and releases by Cactus World News, the Go-Betweens, and the Psycho Daisies.

But, uh, other than the above mentioned — there's nothing to do. Oh, I'm so bloody bored.

—LISA STANKUS

Summer Arts Festival via KVNO

The plazas and streets of downtown Omaha will be graced with arts and entertainment this weekend when Omaha's 12th annual Summer Arts Festival gets under way.

More than 15 hours of special entertainment by area musicians will be broadcast live on UNO's public radio station, KVNO, from the festival's mainstage at 17th and Harney Streets.

Schedule of KVNO live broadcasts

27 FRIDAY

- Noon to 1 p.m. Tuffy Epstein and the Hip Marchers.
- 6:30 to 7 p.m. Drum Corps Parade.
- 7:15 to 9 p.m. The Intergeneration Orchestra.

28 SATURDAY

- Noon to 12:45 p.m. Curly Ennis, folk and bluegrass.
- 1 to 1:45 p.m. Liz Westphalen, pop and jazz.

- 2 to 2:45 p.m. French Underground, *The Band Played On*.
- 3 to 4:45 p.m. Fusion Force and The Gulizia Brothers.
- 5 to 5:45 p.m. Thunder Roll, with Debbie Greenblatt, David Seay and Dave Barger.
- 6 to 6:45 p.m. Middle East Dance Association.
- 7 to 9 p.m. Phil Esser and Barbara Bredius.

29 SUNDAY

- Noon to 12:45 p.m. Sunday Morning Inspirational, with Pilgrim Baptist Church.
- 1 to 1:45 p.m. Tom May, folk.
- 2 to 3:15 p.m. Nebraska Choral Arts and youth choir.
- 3:30 to 5 p.m. Nebraska Wind Symphony, with 1812 Overture and Balloon Finale.
- Musicians, jugglers and mimes will be strolling throughout the mainstage area on all three days.

Neurotica by Karen Nelson Official Liberty Weekend Column

"Where am I going Fourth of July weekend?" asked Marie. "Probably someplace that doesn't have any TV, if I have any sense. Liberty Weekend isn't even here yet, and I'm already sick of hearing about it."

"Gee, that seems like kind of an unpatriotic attitude," said Sally. "I think it's great that everybody is making a big deal out of the Statue of Liberty centennial. I've always loved fireworks."

I passed the suntan lotion to Marie. "Sure, it's wonderful that the statue is getting a much-needed renovation," I said. "It's just too bad we have to put up with all the big corporations hogging the spotlight."

"That's the whole problem," said Marie. "I knew the celebration was going to lack a certain amount of class when I saw 'The Official Cereal of the Statue of Liberty Centennial' at my supermarket. 'Oh, no, it's going to be the 1984 Olympics all over again with official everything,' I said to myself."

"Unfortunately, I was right. There was the Official Photography Equipment of the Statue of Liberty Centennial, The Official Return Address Labels of the Statue of Liberty Centennial, The Official Department Store of the Statue of Liberty Centennial."

Sally wiped her sunglasses on her beach towel. "Well, someone has to pay for these things," she said. "I suppose you would have preferred to have someone going around the neighborhood collecting door-to-door."

"You wouldn't believe the tacky stuff everyone's trying to sell," said Marie. "I got a catalog the other day from the Official Department Store of the Statue of Liberty Centennial. For starters, it offered medals that were guaranteed to be made with 'authentic recovered materials from the statue.' The face of the Statue of Liberty was on one side. The logo of the department store was on the other side."

"What about?" asked Sally. At least it's better than those shoddy paperweights and pencil sharpeners that discount stores sell all the time. Let's face it — the Statue of Liberty has always been commercial."

"I suppose so," I said. "Personally, the only thing I think the Statue of Liberty should sell is the ideal of freedom."

"Well, you know that next year is the bicentennial of the

Constitution," Marie said. "All I know is that the first time I see The Official Shampoo of the Bicentennial of the Constitution, I'm going to think seriously of spending next year in Canada."

Mav Basketball Coach Opens Restaurant

By KATHLEEN FINNEGAN

When you think of head basketball coach Bob Hanson, you might picture a man spinning a basketball. But how about spinning pizza dough?

Mr. Hanson said when the opportunity for him to open a new restaurant close to UNO, Varsity on 72nd and Pacific Streets, came up "it seemed only natural."

"We had the suggestion from Johnny Sortino to buy the restaurant for a couple a years, and the location here is so good. We really wouldn't consider doing this anywhere else," said Linda Hanson, the coach's wife.

Mr. Hanson, who has coached at UNO for 17 years, said he hopes to draw students and faculty from UNO. He plans to have his grand opening the last week of August to coincide with the first week of UNO's fall semester.

"We want to focus on the athletics, because that's what we've been doing our whole lives," said Mrs. Hanson.

The restaurant's athletic motif includes conference banners and local banners from UNO, Creighton, UNL and the College of Saint Mary's.

The Varsity, which opened June 20, is "more than a pizza place," said Mrs. Hanson. The menu also includes sandwiches, salads and spirits.

Although running a restaurant can be a full-time job, Mr. Hanson said he will continue coaching basketball and leave most of the restaurantering to his wife and two daughters.



UNO basketball coach Bob Hanson flips burgers at his newly opened Varsity restaurant. —Dan Koenig

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Review

Something for Everyone in 'Short Circuit'

An ultimate weapon of war with a conscience?

In *Short Circuit*, director John Badham's most recent movie, Number Five is a sophisticated robot designed with laser capabilities programmed to destroy the enemy. Number Five suddenly short circuits during an electrical storm and, all by himself, comes to the realization that it is wrong to kill.

Although the message is simple, the movie is fun. It is tempered with honest humor and child-like emotions. This makes *Short Circuit* a film all ages will enjoy.

Short Circuit is a comedy-adventure film whose plot is just as simple as its premise. The script was written by two students, Brent Maddock and S.S. Wilson, to fulfill a class project at UCLA Extension School. The plot is like those of *Starman* and *E.T.*, only the main character is a robot instead of an alien.

After Number Five short circuits, he is befriended by Stephanie Speck (Ally Sheedy), a flighty Oregon girl who also befriends every stray animal that crosses her path. Together, they must keep one step ahead of their would-be captors, Dr. Howard Marner (Austin Pendleton), the president of Nova Robotics, and Chief of Security Skroeder (G.W. Bailey), while trying to convince Newton Crosby (Steve Guttenberg), Number Five's shy inventor, that

"Number Five is alive."

Even though the story has been done before, Badham keeps the film from seeming that way. The pace is accelerated, which gives the audience little time to absorb the simplicity of the script. *Short Circuit* is not thought-provoking, just entertaining, and its mixture of stand-up comedy and slapstick contribute to the movie's wide audience appeal. Whether it's imitations of Curly Larry and Moe or a debate between Skroeder and Marner over the current slang term for helicopter, Badham's exceptional direction results in well-delivered comedy.

Sheedy, who has worked with Badham before in *Wargames*, appears polished and relaxed in her current role. Guttenberg also appears comfortable in his role as the introverted inventor Crosby, which is a relief after his stacy performance in *Police Academy*. Neither upstages the other or offers any real competition to Number Five, the real star of the show.

Number Five is an operating metal robot that took designer Syd Mead almost five months to bring to life in front of the cameras. Number Five's antics and wit are adorable as he assimilates America's culture through hours and hours of watching television and spits it back at just the right moment to give the audience a good chuckle at themselves. Whether he is impersonating John Wayne, dancing to El De-

barge's "Who's Johnny," or trying out his culinary skill by making a mess of breakfast, Number Five steals the show with just as much charm as E.T.

Pendleton delivers an excellent performance as Marner, a former scientist turned nervous executive of Nova Robotics. Bailey's role as Chief of Security Skroeder seemed a remake of his role in *Police Academy*. Nevertheless, the remake turns out better in *Short Circuit* because Bailey's take-charge, drill-sergeant personality is used as a foil for the sometimes frantic personality of Marner.

Fisher Stevens, who plays Ben Jaituya, a scientist from India, delivers a marvelous Indian accent. His malapropisms and one-track mind leading him to say things like "Her pants are a-blazin' for you" and pronouncing Skroeder as

"Scrotum" become tiresome and add little to the genuine humor of the show.

Stevens' lines and some profanities give *Short Circuit* a PG rating, yet the conviction from a child-like robot against using his lasers to overcome his persecutors despite their intentions to destroy him appeals to a younger audience. The movie could have been made with a G rating without disrupting the wonderful comic spirit. Nevertheless, the profanities are very mild, and the sexual innuendos are difficult to catch over Jaituya's Indian accent, which leaves the film fairly harmless even for a younger crowd.

So pack up the kids, your younger brother and sister, grandma and grandpa and have an enjoyable chuckle with *Short Circuit*.

—NANCY CORMACI



Steve Guttenberg and Ally Sheedy star in *Short Circuit*, a comedy adventure about Number Five, a robot who, after being struck by lightning, believes he's alive.

Classifieds

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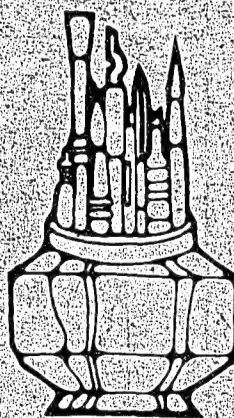
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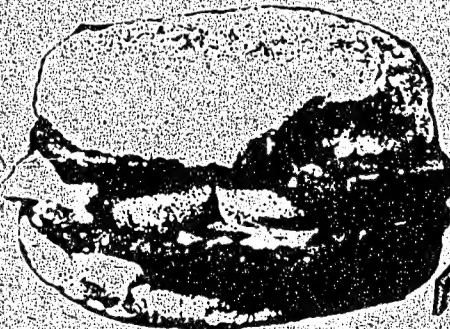
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